

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 OIC-04 SS-15 L-03 H-03 AF-10 ARA-16

EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10

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TAGS: UN, ECOSOC

SUBJECT: ECOSOC - COORDINATING COMMITTEE SESSION JULY 19

REF: GENEVA 3753

1. DURING MORNING SESSION (ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED AFTERNOON SESSION CANCELLED AT SUGGESTION OF CHAIRMAN WHO COMPLIMENTED COMMITTEE ON ITS GOOD PROGRESS TO DATE), COMMITTEE CONTINUED ITS CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEM 17B, REPORT OF ACC; ITEM 18, RELATIONS WITH WIPO (SEE REFTEL); AND ITEM 16, UN BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM PLAN.

2. AT OUTSET US, SPEAKING FOR CO-SPONSORS DENMARK, JAPAN, ITALY, KENYA AND NETHERLANDS, INTRODUCED TEXT OF DRAFT COUNCIL DECISION CALLING FOR IN-DEPTH STUDY ON INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND COMPUTER USE (TEXT CONTAINED SEPTTEL). THERE WERE ONLY TWO INTERVENTIONS, CANADA SPEAKING IN SUPPORT AND THE USSR, GENERALLY IN SUPPORT, REQUESTED INFORMATION AS TO THE COST OF THE PROPOSED STUDY. SECRETARIAT (KITANI) REPLIED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO ADDITIONAL COSTS.

3. IN DISCUSSION OF 1974/75 BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM PLAN,
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STATEMENTS WERE MADE BY DENMARK, FINLAND AND SPAIN.

A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT GENERAL ASSEMBLY REQUEST SYG TO BE GUIDED BY RECOMMENDATIONS OF 14TH CPC (PARA 96A & B OF CPC REPORT) WAS INTRODUCED BY PAKISTAN IN BEHALF ITSELF DENMARK, HUNGARY AND TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

4. IN THEIR STATEMENTS DENMARK AND FINLAND AGREED THAT CURRENT PROGRAM BUDGET SUBMISSION WAS "EXPERIMENTAL" IN NATURE AND THAT ECOSOC SHOULD BE CONCERNED AT THIS POINT MORE WITH PROCEDURES THAN WITH SUBSTANCE OF BUDGET. SPAIN MADE EXTREMELY LONG AND RAMBLING DISCOURSE (50 MINUTES BY THE CLOCK) ON ALL ASPECTS OF THE BUDGET AND THE BUDGETARY PROCESS AND THE PHILOSOPHY OF PROGRAM BUDGETING. ESSENTIAL POINTS GLEANED FROM SPANISH INTERVENTION WAS THAT CURRENT EFFORT A GOOD ONE WITH, HOWEVER, MANY SHORTCOMINGS. SPAIN LAMENTED LACK OF LONG TERM STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES, IMPRECISE AND GENERAL MANNER OF PRESENTATION OF PROGRAM JUSTIFICATIONS. SPAIN ALSO URGED IMPROVEMENT IN COORDINATION HORIZONTALLY AS WELL AS VERTICALLY. CONCLUDING HIS LENGTHY STATEMENT THE SPANISH REP STATED THAT LENGTH OF HIS STATEMENT REFLECTED THE DEGREE SPAIN'S INTEREST AS THE 16TH HIGHEST CONTRIBUTOR TO THE UN BUDGET. BASSIN

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